

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR



Training here today, to protect your tomorrow



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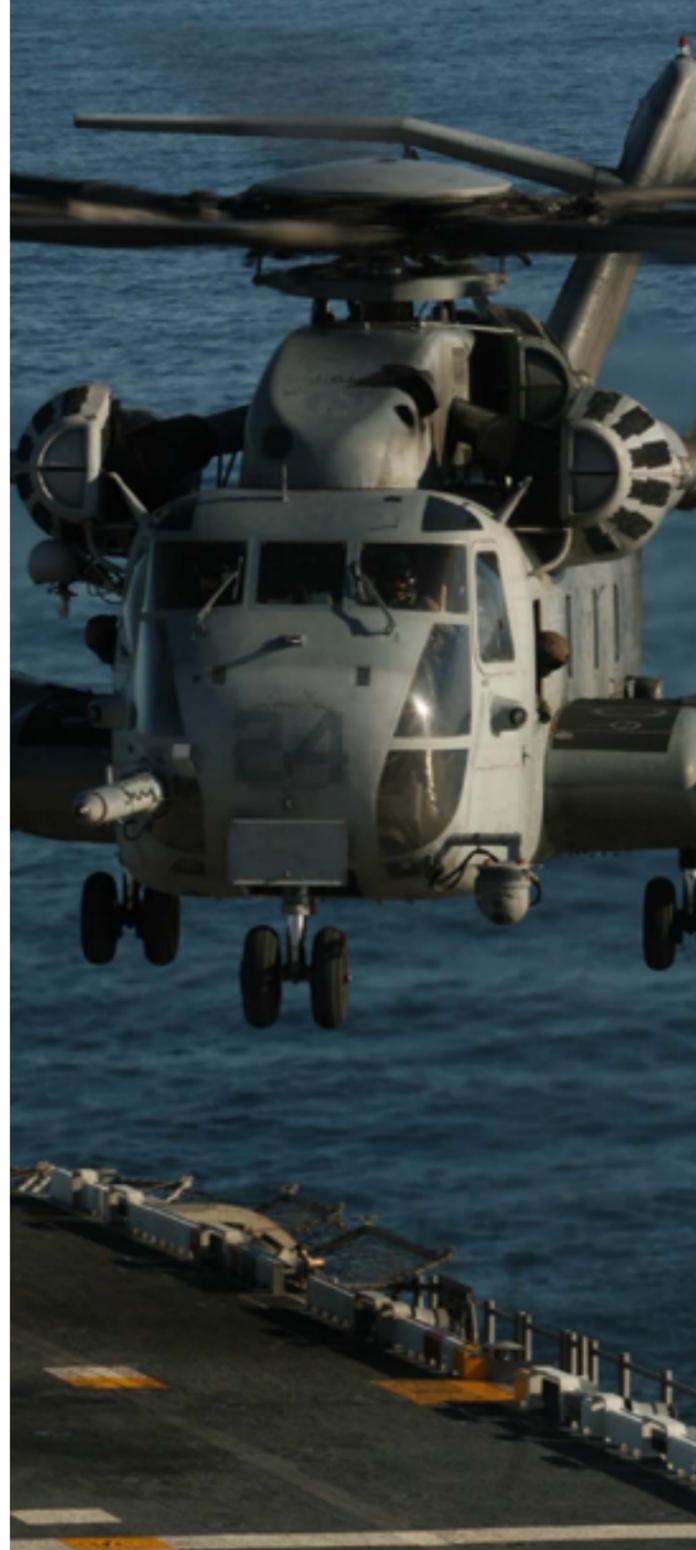
Colonel Frank A. Richie

Executive Officer

Lieutenant Colonel Daniel F. Goodwin

Sergeant Major

Sergeant Major Bonnie L. Skinner



MCAS Miramar Commanding Officer

Colonel Frank A. Richie

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar is proud to be a vital member of the San Diego community. Over 15,000 service members and their families, comprised of every branch of our military services, supported by civilian Marines and contracted employees call “America’s Finest City” their home. We take great pride in being members of the San Diego community and look forward to this partnership continuing for many years to come.

Marines and Sailors from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing continue to deploy throughout the world in support of the United States’ contingency operations. “In any clime and place,” these outstanding young men and women proudly serve their country and defend our nation’s freedom. Their dedication to duty, and the many sacrifices they willingly make while serving thousands of miles away from home, leave a lasting impression on all those who come in contact with them.

MCAS Miramar’s strategic location and mission are essential elements in the preparation of these young Marines and Sailors for combat. MCAS Miramar is located in the center of a constellation of Marine and Navy installations and ranges in the Southwestern United States. This ideal location allows for unimpeded access to the training needed to succeed in combat. The Marine Corps prides itself in being ready when the nation needs us, and our ability to train and the lethality of the Marine Air Ground Task Force’s air combat power must never be compromised.

This annual report outlines MCAS Miramar’s structure and capabilities and explains the Marine Corps’ expeditionary warfighting philosophy. It also outlines the air station’s community involvement, how we work with local government agencies on land use compatibility issues, and how we take great pride in our stewardship of the environment with which we are entrusted. This report includes the air station’s economic contributions to the community and also includes an update on the major construction projects and quality of life initiatives we are implementing for our service members and their families.

The San Diego community’s unwavering support of MCAS Miramar and all those who serve here is evident in the many contributions made to our warriors over this past year. Your support is never taken for granted and is always greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much and Semper Fidelis!

Frank A. Richie
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer
Marine Corps Air Station Miramar



In 1846 during the Mexican-American War, a detachment of Marines from the second-class Sloop-of-War Cyane landed in San Diego to raise the American flag above what is now called Old Town.

As a result of the war, the U.S. acquired San Diego and the rest of California, as well as Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, thus creating a nation from “sea to shining sea.”

At that time, today’s Marine Corps Air Station Miramar was part of a ranch owned by Don Santiago Arguello. Arguello’s cattle grazed on the mesa now covered with aircraft runways.

After the American Civil War, Arguello divided his land and sold it in portions. In 1890, newspaper publisher Edward Scripps purchased one of these portions. Credited with naming Miramar – which loosely translates to “a view of the sea” – Scripps established his own ranch on 2,000 acres in the Miramar area. Scripps Ranch presently adjoins MCAS Miramar.

Although both the Navy and Army had established facilities on North Island in 1912, Miramar’s military history didn’t begin until 1917, when the Army purchased the Miramar area and created Camp Kearny, named for Gen. Stephen Kearny, whose Army of the West had



captured California during the Mexican-American War.

The 13,000-acre base cost \$4.5 million, and housed 1,200 buildings before it closed just five years later. Miramar languished for 10 years before being put to use again.

Later, the abandoned parade field of Camp Kearny (East Miramar) was ideally located for the tricky flight practices of Charles Lindbergh. From San Diego, he

took off for St. Louis, New York and Paris in his custom-made aircraft, The Spirit of St. Louis, which destined him for international fame.

In 1932 a mooring mast and hangar were built at the camp for the U.S. Navy’s 785-foot dirigibles the USS Akron and Macon. When the Navy gave up the airship program, Kearny Mesa was quiet once again.

By the time World War II had broken out in Europe, Miramar was already undergoing a precautionary renovation.

Camp Holcomb (renamed Camp Elliot) was built on part of Camp Kearny to be used for Marine artillery and machine gun training. Extending across more than 26,000 acres, Camp Elliot became home to the Fleet Marine Force Training Center, West Coast and the 2nd Marine Division.

Runways were constructed in 1940 and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing arrived on Dec. 21 of that year. In August 1942 the Wing was moved to Guadalcanal and the Navy commissioned Naval Auxiliary Air Station (NAAS) Camp Kearny in February 1943.

A month later the Marines established Marine Corps Air Depot Camp Kearny, later renamed Marine Corps Air Depot Miramar to avoid

confusion.

During the 1940s, both the Navy and the Marine Corps occupied Miramar. East Miramar (Camp Elliot) was used to train Marine artillery and armored personnel, while Navy and Marine Corps pilots trained on the western side, across Interstate 15.

In 1945, the bases were combined and designated Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

In 1947 the Marines moved to El Toro in Orange County and Miramar was re-designated as a Naval Auxiliary Air Station.

In 1969, the Navy established the Top Gun school, immortalized in the 1985 movie of the same name, to train pilots in dog-fighting and fleet air defense during the Vietnam War.

In 1993, the Base Realignment and Closure Committee recommended closing El Toro and Tustin air stations and moving the Marines to Miramar. Top Gun and the Navy’s F-14 Tomcat squadrons were relocated, and the base was again re-designated Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

Marines arrived in August 1994, and by 1 October 1997 MCAS Miramar was fully operational.

In 2006 Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area transitioned to Marine Corps Installations West, which is comprised of seven Marine Corps bases and installations in the Southwestern United States, including MCAS Miramar. MCI West provides the installation and training infrastruc-

ture to enable Marine Corps air and ground forces to develop and sustain operational readiness.

Today, MCAS Miramar serves as home to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, including Marine Aircraft Group 11’s fixed wing F/A-18 Hornet and KC-130J Hercules squadrons, Marine Aircraft Group 16’s CH-46E Sea Knight, CH-53E Super Stallion squadrons and a Marine Medium Tiltrotor MV-22 Osprey squadron.

The support commands, Marine Wing Support Group 37 and Marine Air Control Group 38, and the 3rd MAW Band are also located here.

After an absence of 50 years, MCAS Miramar is once again the home of the Marine Corps’ West Coast air power.



Operational Commands and Tenant Organizations



Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron - The approximately 1,200 Marines and 50 sailors who comprise Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the air station. Their efforts ensure the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing has an optimal installation from which to train and deploy air combat support when the nation calls.

4th MAW Site Support - Site Support transitioned from Marine Aircraft Group 46 and continued to develop command relationships with its active-duty counterparts and higher headquarters as ADCON units were activated and de-activated in the support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Site Support was able to achieve unprecedented levels of combat readiness, success and “Esprit de Corps” thanks to headquarters staff, most who have previously deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and the Horn of Africa. Site Support functions as a consolidated administration department for all Marine Corps Reserve units stationed at MCAS Miramar.

Reserve Support Unit - The RSU facilitates and coordinates the peacetime training of local Marine reservists as well as the mobilization and demobilization of Marine reservists during wartime operations.

Through their efforts, the personnel of the Reserve Support Unit enhance the air station’s capability to prepare the Marine

Corps Reserve for the augmentation to and reinforcement of operational forces.

4th Tank Battalion - Headquartered across the interstate, just a mile from MCAS Miramar’s main facilities, is the 4th Tank Battalion of the 4th Marine Division. A reserve command, 4th Tank Battalion is a self-sustaining unit capable of performing all tasks of a regular, active-duty Marine tank battalion.

The battalion provides armored combat power for the division during amphibious assault and subsequent operations. The battalion also provides individual Marines and combat-ready companies to augment and reinforce active-duty components when needed.

Similar to their counterparts within Marine Aircraft Group 46, the battalion is also actively involved in community relations outreach programs, to include Toys for Tots.

Combat Logistics Company 11 - The company provides support to 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and MCAS Miramar in the form of intermediate maintenance for motor transportation for all support squadrons; third echelon maintenance for utilities, bulk fuel and water, and small arms; providing float parts for units aboard the air station, and augmenting medical personnel at the branch medical clinic.

The company also provides additional personnel to support day-to-day operations at the air station through the fleet assistance program.



Naval Aviation Survival Training Center Miramar - The staff of the ASTC provides aviation physiology and water survival training to aeronautically designated personnel in the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard and other military and government members.

As a member of the Naval Survival Training Institute, the center is responsible for providing mission-oriented didactic and dynamic instruction including training in aeromedical aspects of flight, water survival and the proper use of the Aviation Life Support System.

The ASTC also provides underwater egress training to Marine ground forces and Navy frequent flyers. The center trains approximately 5,000 students in 11 different courses through more than 200 classes annually.

Naval Consolidated Brig Miramar - The Naval Consolidated Brig Miramar serves as the Pacific area regional confinement facility for the Department of Defense. It is one of only two Naval consolidated brig.

Built in 1989 and expanded in 2010, the 307,000 square-foot facility can house a total of 600 male and female prisoners at one time.

Branch Medical and Dental Clinics - More than 300 sailors and a team of civilians tend to the medical and dental needs of personnel stationed at Miramar. The branch medical clinic includes a sick call for non-emergency medical care and sections dedicated to women’s health, optometry, immunizations, and physical therapy, among others. The installation also features a full-service pharmacy and a family medical clinic.

MCAS Miramar’s dental clinic staff, approximately 60 Sailors from the 13th Dental Company headquartered at Camp Pendleton, Calif., tends to the dental health of all personnel assigned to the installation.

Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Team Clinic - The SMART Clinic was opened to help Marines and sailors recover from injuries faster after sustaining a musculoskeletal injury.

The SMART physicians at the clinic help Marines and sailors, using the same approach as if they were professional athletes. They have more than 100 years of sports medicine experience combined, with many of them assisting at the Olympic, professional and college sport levels.

Miramar Fire Department - To meet the MCAS Miramar mission and to promote a safe environment, the Miramar Fire Department provides an extensive range of public safety services including fire prevention, public education, response to fire, medical and other types of emergency incidents and disaster mitigation.

The department operates three engine companies and two medic-ambulance from two stations with a staff of 55 personnel. Though housed on station, the Miramar Fire Department not only responds to emergencies on station but also in the surrounding San Diego communities.



Combat Wing

The 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing is the aviation combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force which is based at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. The following 3rd MAW squadrons are located at MCAS Miramar:

Marine Aircraft Group 11

- Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121*
- Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225*
- Marine Fighter Attack Training Squadron 101*
- Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232*
- Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314*
- Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323*
- Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352*
- Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 11*

Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 3 I Marine Expeditionary Force



Command Element



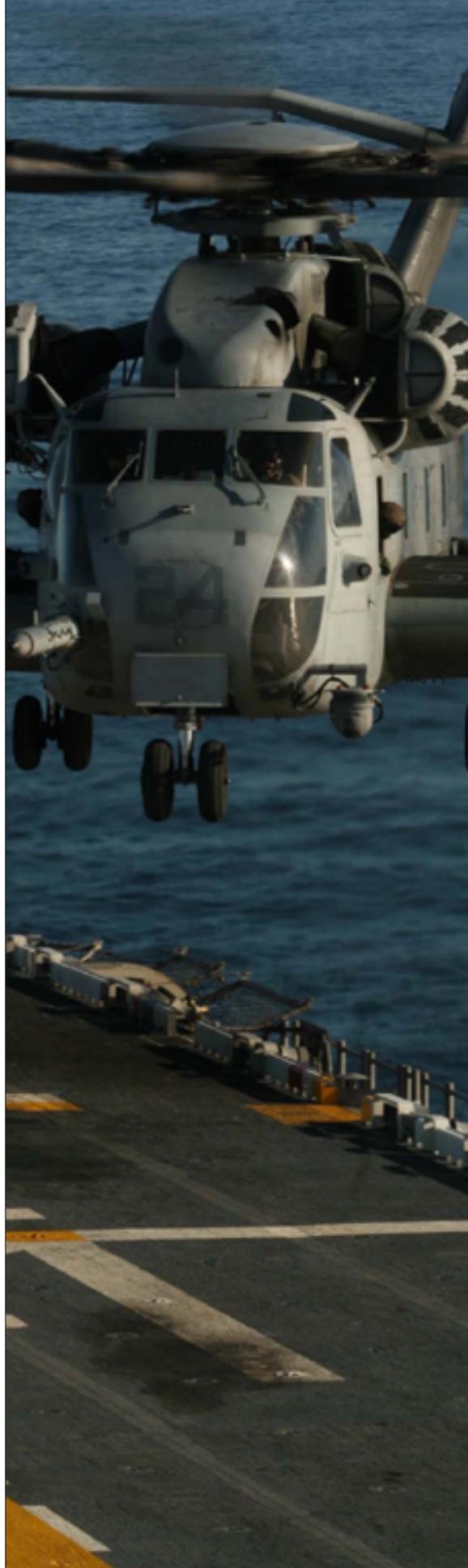
1st Marine Division
Ground Combat Element



3rd Marine Aircraft Wing
Air-Combat Element



1st Marine Logistics Group
Combat Support Element



3rd

Marine Aircraft Wing



Marines and sailors with squadrons from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing continue to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and other overseas contingency operations.

In 2008, the majority of 3rd MAW units that deployed headed to Al Asad in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

When forward, the Wing provides close air support for convoys, casualty evacuations, and air transportation of troops and supplies vital to the success of coalition forces on the ground.

The Wing's fast response capabilities often take them outside of their immediate area of

responsibility as they are asked to perform cordon and search missions to locate anti-coalition forces and high-value targets.

The highly-trained and battle-tested Marines and sailors have distinguished themselves in some of Iraq and Afghanistan's most dangerous areas.

3rd MAW has provided squadrons and detachments to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Unit Deployment Program, maintained a forward presence as part of Marine Expeditionary Units, provided support to Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, as well as supported relief efforts in Japan and anti-piracy efforts in Africa.

Marine Aircraft Group 16

- Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 161*
- Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 163*
- Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 165*
- Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 166*
- Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 561*
- Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361*
- Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462*
- Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 465*
- Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466*
- Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16*

Marine Air Control Group 38

- Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 38*
- Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38*

Marine Wing Support Group 37

- Marine Wing Support Squadron 373*



Strategic Location, Training, and Economic Impacts of MCAS Miramar

Strategic location

The expeditionary mission of the Navy and Marine Corps team requires strategic co-location in order to maintain the flexibility required for national security needs.

MCAS Miramar is centrally located near more than 10 West Coast Navy and Marine Corps installations.

Sixty-seven percent of continental United States Department of Defense training ranges are located in three southwestern states – California, Arizona and Nevada.

MCAS Miramar is ideally positioned to maximize training dollars and prepare U.S. Armed Forces for operational commitments.

Training at MCAS Miramar

In addition to being uniquely positioned to support the Navy and Marine Corps team on the West Coast, MCAS Miramar is home to several state-of-the-art training facilities.

Many of these facilities are

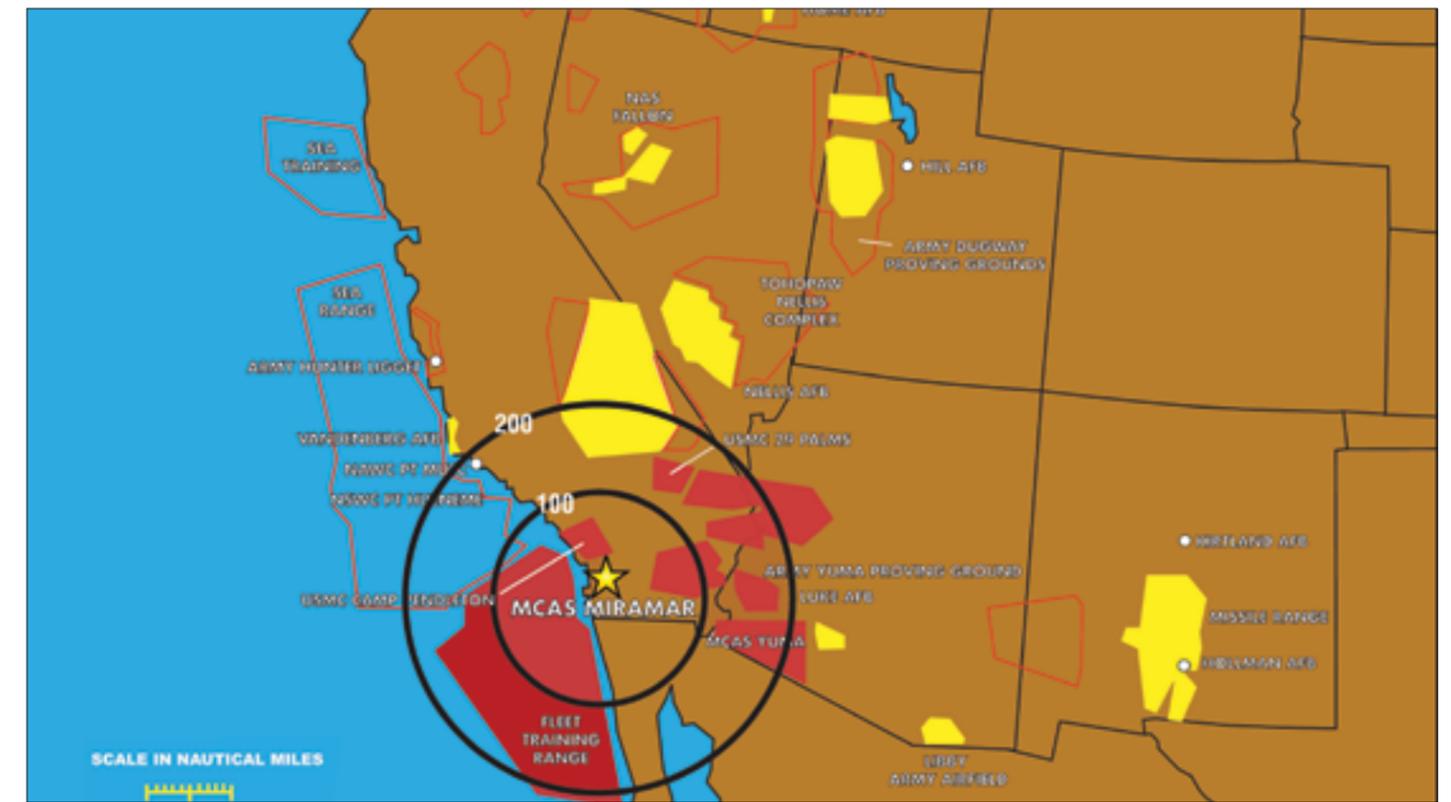
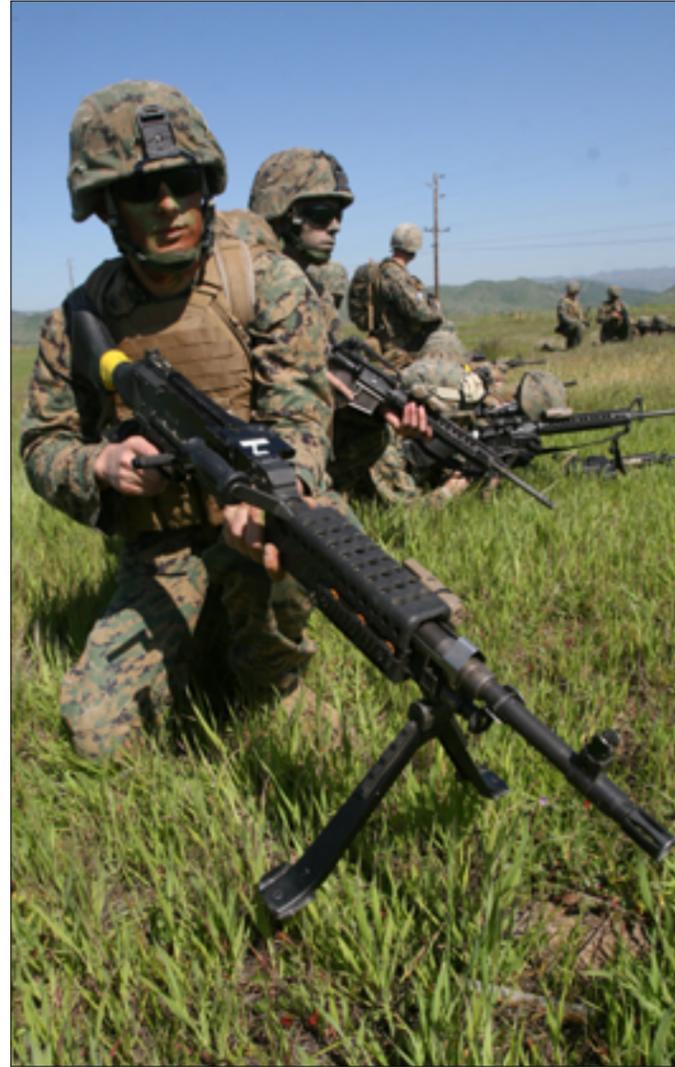
used not only to train military personnel, but are shared facilities used in training local law enforcement personnel and personnel from other federal, county, and city agencies.

The majority of MCAS Miramar's training facilities are located aboard East Miramar. For the military, this approximately 15,000 acre spread of hilly, chaparral desert is the location of five small-arms ranges, a nuclear, biological, and chemical training facility, and an aircraft fire rescue training site.

The land itself supports training in land navigation, convoy operations, and related ground training exercises.

The Army and the Army National Guard, Navy, Marine reserve units, and ROTC units frequently use the land and facilities at East Miramar for training.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department has three small arms firing ranges aboard East Miramar as well as a canine training facility.



Miramar Rifle and Pistol Range

In 2002, MCAS Miramar officially opened the first automated rifle range in the Marine Corps.

The range, named Hathcock Range Complex after Gunner Sgt. Carlos N. Hathcock – a Marine sniper whose actions in Vietnam earned him legend status – employs state of the art computer systems to train Marines in rifle marksmanship skills.

Two key differences between Hathcock Range and other Marine Corps rifle ranges are the use of electronic shot marking and scoring, and the absence of pulling targets and shooters moving yard lines.

A computerized system known as LOMAH runs the mechanized rifle range and can detect rounds hitting targets with a very small margin of error.

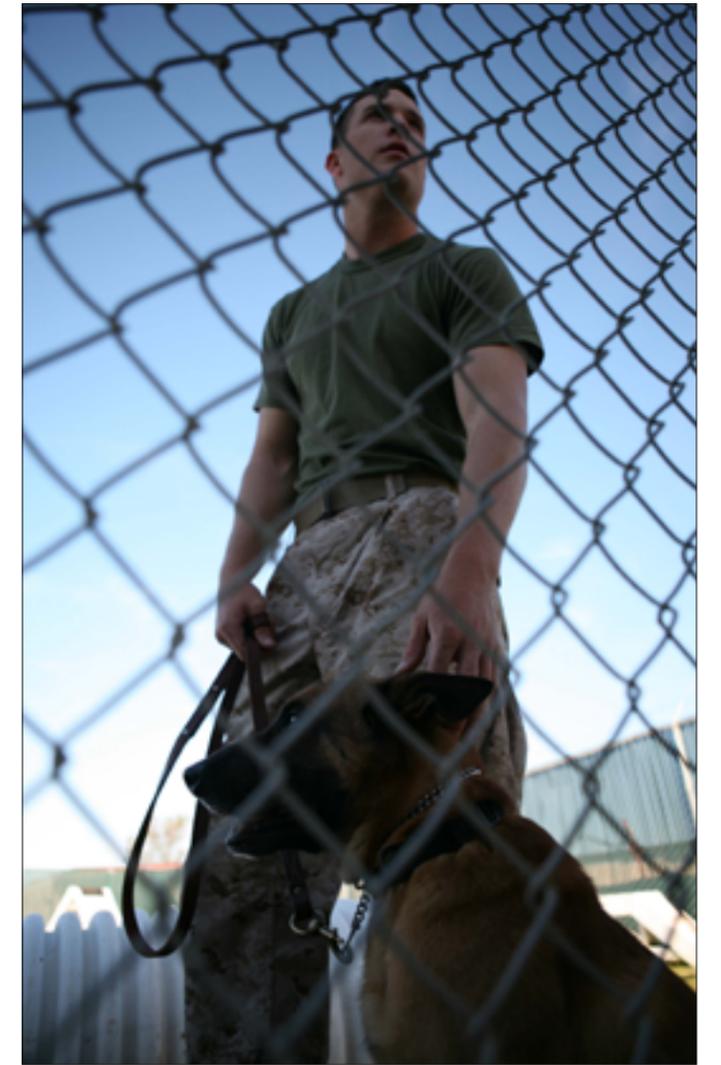
The range features the only static firing line in the Marine Corps and as shooters don't have to pull and mark targets or move from their firing points, the course of fire takes significantly less time to complete.

The new pistol range opened Jan. 9, 2007 and sits next to the rifle range. It consists of 25 targets and three firing lines.

Economic Impacts

Department of Defense spending in the San Diego region directly accounted for \$16.1 billion worth of economic activity and directly employed more than 136,729 people according to an Economic Impact Study conducted in 2009 by the San Diego Military Advisory Council.

Additionally, the annual MCAS Miramar Airshow, which draws more than 500,000 visitors, results in a direct and indirect economic impact of more than \$17 million.



Community Involvement and Station Events

MCAS Miramar hosts and supports a variety of community outreach events from fun-runs to base tours.

These events give the community an opportunity to interact face-to-face with the service members of today's volunteer military services.

Volunteering

Many Miramar volunteer programs offer Marines and sailors the opportunity to donate their time, manpower and support to the neighboring communities.

MCAS Miramar single service members and geo-bachelors contributed thousands of community service hours in 2011.

The Single Marine Program participated in a volunteer opportunity once a month throughout the year. These service members supported and volunteered for such efforts as the Challenge Horse Ranch, Otay Mesa Seeding Project, School Refurbishing aProject, Elementary and Junior High School Physical Education/Fitness Challenges, San Diego Yacht Club Wheelchair Regatta, MCAS Miramar Air Show and MCCS Family Fall Festival.

Partnership in Education

Facilitated by the Installation School Liaisons, MCAS Miramar maintains several Partnership in Education (PIE) agreements with neighboring schools within San Diego Unified School District. Under these partnerships, service members participate in a variety of activities that support and encourage improved student outcomes in schools that serve military K-12 students. Marines and sailors support the program by sharing technical and leadership skills with the entire school community in activities such as tutoring, mentoring, Physical education Fitness Challenges, senior exhibitions, squadron tours and demonstrations, campus beautification projects and special events and festivals.

Educators Workshop

The Educators Workshop program offers another means of introducing the civilian community to the Marine Corps and Marines who fill its ranks.

The program invites educators from states west of the Mississippi River to tour San Diego-area Marine Corps bases and meet Marines.

Through the workshops, teachers, coaches, and school administrators

are introduced to the Marine Corps. MCAS Miramar hosts approximately 12 Educator's Workshops annually.

During the air station's portion of the workshop, attendees visit the flight line where they get to view fixed and rotary-wing aircraft and the enlisted barracks as well as attend a question and answer session with Marines from the air station.



Tours

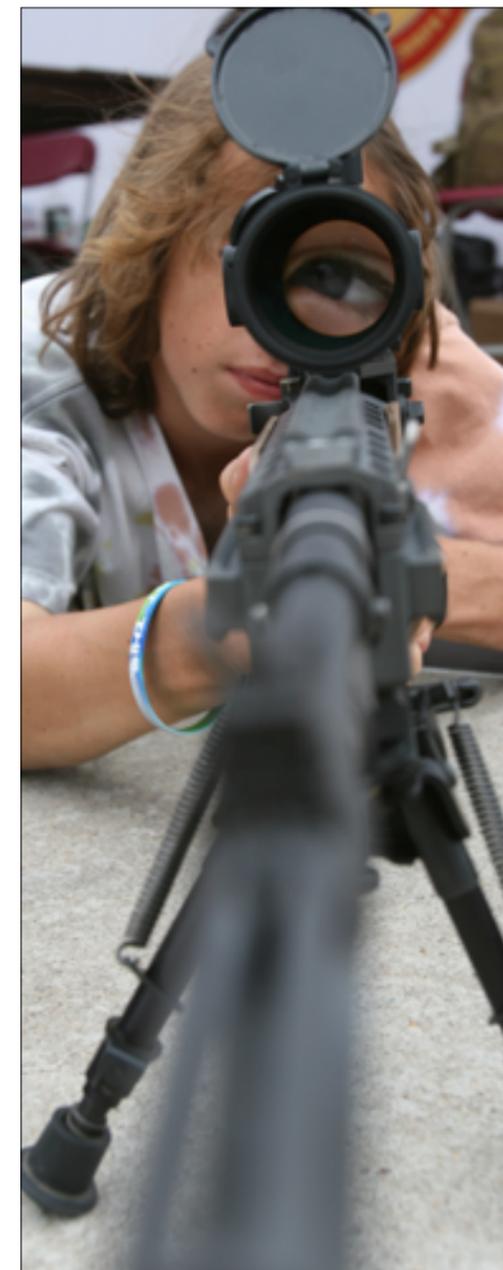
Through community relations programs such as base tours, the air station provides the public another avenue by which they can see the Marine Corps up-close.

The air station hosts tours for the public on a first-come, first-served basis as well as tours for large groups based on specific support requests and the availability of air station assets and personnel.

Event Support

MCAS Miramar also supports requests for aircraft fly-overs, static displays, and color guards for local community events and arranges for Marines to serve as guest speakers and volunteers in the community.

During fiscal year 2011, MCAS Mira-



mar provided color guard support for various San Diego Chargers games and Veterans Day parades.

Additionally, each year the air station facilitates support of several hundred media requests for information about the air station and its tenant organizations.

Station Events

While building relationships off base and bringing the civilian community on base to see the Marine Corps in action, the air station also supports base events designed to build morale and entertain the service members and their families.

For example, in August 2011 MCAS Miramar hosted a San Diego Chargers pre-season practice on the Miramar Youth and Teen Sports Complex.

Also in 2011, Miramar hosted its annual air show for the public and service members of San Diego and other surrounding areas.



The MCAS Miramar Air Show

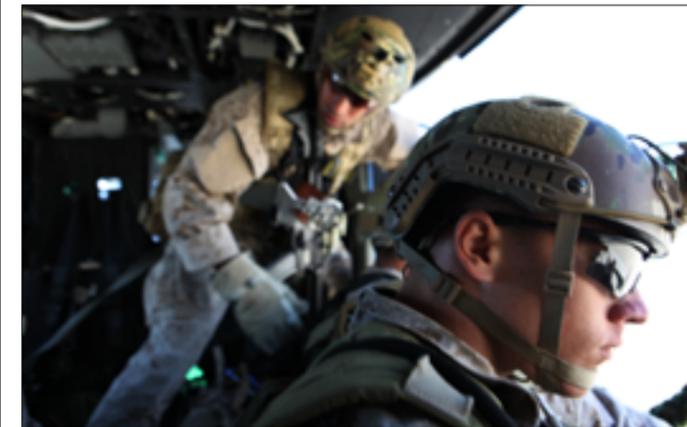


As an award-winning, world-class air show, the Miramar Air Show proves to be the highlight of the air station's annual schedule of activities. The thrilling, three-day event draws crowds from around the world to come witness the finest in civilian and military aviation.

The U.S. Navy's Performance Demonstration Team, the Blue Angels headlined Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and 2, 2011, air show with their six-jet exhibition of precise acrobatics and carefully choreographed maneuvers.

Aside from the Blue Angels, the 2011 Miramar Air Show featured the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team, a Marine Air-Ground Task Force demonstration, and a twilight show ending with the record-breaking Great Wall of Fire.

General admission and parking are free for all attendees, but funds raised through premium seating and corporate sponsors go to quality of life projects and programs to further morale and welfare of service members and families assigned to the air station.





Always striving for excellence, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar continues to improve its services and facilities aboard the installation. During Fiscal Year 2011, the air station made several improvements to both Marine Corps Community Services and air station facilities.

A wide variety of routine maintenance, repair and minor construction, occur at the air station. In 2011, over \$23 million was expended for these purposes. In addition, expenditures of over \$5 million were made for similar larger actions. The total for continuing maintenance and repair in 2011 was over \$28 million for primarily local businesses.

Human Resource Service Center

This 60,000 square foot office facility was awarded in September 2009. The \$22.1 million project was completed in the summer of 2011. When completed, this building consolidated 200 specialists from around the region as well as provided associated training spaces. Human Resource services for

the entire Navy region will be improved by this co-location. All buildings being built on the air station use the guidelines of the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

Consolidated Brig Expansion

Awarded in September 2009 and completed in February of 2011, this \$30 million expansion provides facilities for an additional 200 residents.

New Marine Combat Water Survival Training Facility

Construction began in late September 2009 of a new Marine Combat Water Survival Training Facility directly in front of the old pool. The project was constructed in two phases and completed in the summer of 2010.

The project cost approximately \$9 million and upon completion will have an indoor classroom, bigger locker rooms and drying racks that the current pool does not offer.

The new pool measures 50 meters long, 25 wide and 15 deep, conforming to Marine Corps standards. Eighty

percent of the pool is covered by solar panels making it more energy efficient than the older pool which was demolished. The new building earned the prestigious Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification and is the third LEED Gold building on Miramar.

Recycled Water Irrigation System

All twelve phases of the station-wide "Recycled Water" distribution system was completed in 2011 making MCAS Miramar one of the largest users of recycled water in the entire San Diego metropolitan area. The project brings recycled water to several ball fields, the physical fitness complex track field and chapel grounds.

Military Working Dog Complex

This \$3.3 million K9 complex was completed in 2011. The completed project provides kennels, offices, training yards and veterinary spaces.

Fuel Pits and Airfield Apron Modifications

Awarded in December of 2010 for

\$27.4 million, these projects support the standup of the MV-22 Osprey at the air station. These airfield improvements continue our transition of Vietnam era helicopters to the latest tilt rotor technology. Improvements include construction of environmentally friendly fueling facilities and removal of older facilities. Other elements include apron modifications

and the construction of a new wash facility.

A key step for Miramar was the beginning of planning the Station Master Plan. Visioning workshops were conducted and collaborative effort initiated in the planning and development of Miramar's Area Development Plans (ADPs) and Base Master Plan.





